GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:355
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2002
COMPULSORY LICENCE FOR IMPORT OF DRUGS
A. VENKATESH NAIK

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made licensing compulsory for import of all categories of drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the kinds of drugs which can be imported freely;

(d) whether the Government are considering to make licensing compulsory for import of these drugs; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (e) : The Government of India, Ministry of Health & Family-Welfare vide Gazette Notification no. GSR 604(E) dated 24-8-2001 have amended the various provisions of the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules and thereby have introduceda new provision for the registration of the manufacturing premises of foreign drug manufacturers and the individual drugs prior to their import into the country. The notification has also introduced other provisions, viz, Import Licence for all categories of drugs, enhanced import licence fees, increased validity period of licence, deletion of exemption from requirement of import licence for bulk drugs for actual users, requirement of minimum 60% of retained shelf life for imported drugs and provision for import of small quantities of new drugs by Government hospitals for treatment of their own patients etc. These regulations are scheduled to become applicable as mentioned in the above notification w.r.t. January,2003.